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Sen. Hammerstrom offers comments following State of the State address

LANSING – Following the governor's annual State of the State address, state Sen. Beverly Hammerstrom, R-Temperance, issued the following statement:

"The Senate will take a serious look at any program designed to help improve the quality of life for all Michigan residents. Although I'm excited at the prospect of providing health insurance to more low-income families, I have concerns about the governor's proposal. It's one thing to plan to offer healthcare, it's another to find a way to pay for it. Her proposal would divert millions of dollars currently spent on other programs. I've never believed 'robbing Peter to pay Paul' is a viable solution to any financial struggle.

"The governor spoke about the state of our economy and the need for more Michigan jobs. My Republican colleagues and I are dedicated to helping the state pull out of its economic slump. We need to focus on making Michigan a more attractive place to conduct business. The Senate has already approved legislation to help to provide tax relief and is working on a plan to reduce regulations that may make companies decide against bringing their businesses to Michigan."